



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

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CONVICTED FELON WHO TRIED TO HAVE HANDGUNS REPAIRED
SENTENCED TO NEARLY 20 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON

Orlando, Florida - United States District Judge Anne C. Conway today sentenced ROBERT TIM MARTIN, age 29, of Orlando, to a term of 19 years and seven months in prison on two counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. MARTIN previously had been found guilty of the charges after a federal jury trial on October 6, 2006. In addition to the prison term, MARTIN will have to serve five years on supervised release and pay a \$200 special monetary assessment.

According to the evidence presented at trial, MARTIN brought a semi-automatic handgun to an Orange County firearms dealer for repair on January 25, 2006. Two days later, he returned with a second handgun that also needed repair. During this transaction, two sales clerks noticed that MARTIN was wearing an electronic ankle monitor and called police. MARTIN, a convicted felon who was on house arrest at the time of the offenses, is prohibited from possessing firearms under federal law.

The case represents the culmination of a cooperative effort between the United States Attorney's Office, the State Attorney's Office for the Ninth Judicial Circuit, the Orange County Sheriff's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). This is another case prosecuted as a part the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from ATF. United States Attorney Paul I. Perez is coordinating the cooperative effort here in the Middle District of Florida with federal, state and local law enforcement officials. The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert E. Bodnar, Jr.